In addition to above, the Government of NCT Delhi has started 'Jal Bhagidari' scheme in December, 2002 to promote rain water harvesting for augmentation of ground water recharge under which financial assistance to the extent of Rs.50,000/- or 50% of the cost of the project is being given to registered RWAs/Co-operative Group Housing Societies/Schools/ Educational Institutions and NGO buildings. They have so far approved financial assistance to 128 projects out of which assistance to 90 projects have already been released.

Lift irrigation projects in Andhra Pradesh

1611. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether grants are being given by Government to the States for lift irrigation schemes run by marginal farmers and farming groups;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the assistance provided to the State Governments during the last three years, State-wise particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the details of amount sanctioned for lift irrigation projects in Andhra Pradesh during the last two years; and

(d) the details of the status of implementation of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) and (b) There is no specific scheme of the Ministry of Water Resources for providing grants for lift irrigation schemes run by marginal farmers and farming groups. However, grants to the State Governments are considered for completion of minor irrigation schemes as per the approved guidelines under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Availability of water for agricultural production

†1612. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the agricultural production rate has been decreased in many States in the country due to shortage of water availability;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the names of the States where availability of water has decreased during the last three years; and

(c) the extent to which such water shortage has been found?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF.SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) No specific trend for decrease in the agricultural production rate has been observed during the last three years. The total yield of food grains production for the years 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05 are 174.77 million tonnes, 213.46 million tonnes and 204.61 million tonnes respectively.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Completion of irrigation projects

†1613. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of assistance given by NABARD and Central Government to Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar for starting irrigation projects and completing the incomplete projects during the last three years;

(b) the names of these projects;

(c) the estimated and actual potential of irrigation of these projects; and

(d) the names of the projects out of these completed by 31st October, 2005 alongwith the details of the cost incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), through its programme, namely, Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF), has been assisting the State Governments in taking up and completing the irrigation projects. The details of amount released under RIDF during the last three years to the States of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar are given in the Annexure [*See* appendix 207. Annexure No. 6].

The Central Government launched the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) in 1996-97 to provide Central Loan Assistance (CLA) to States for such approved irrigation projects which are in an advanced stage of construction and beyond the resources capability of the States that can be completed in the next four financial years and which are not receiving any other form of assistance (NABARD, external aid, etc.) can be

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.